Private sector assistance for development of barren land

†1489. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the districtwise total areas of barren land converted into cultivable land by Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat Governments;

(b) the details of projects approved by Government which have been implemented, district-wise;

(c) whether Government have sought assistance from private sector undertakings for development of barren land;

(d) whether Government have accorded approval to a proposal for receiving assistance from private sector industrial organisation for development of barren land of Kutch district of Gujarat; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As per the definition of Nine Fold Land Use Classification of the Ministry of Agriculture, the barren land covers land like mountain, deserts etc; land which cannot be brought under cultivation unless at a high cost. Under Central Sector Schemes, so far, no specific project have been sanctioned to convert barren land into cultivable land in the States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. The State Governments of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and gujarat have reported nil information for converting barren land into cultivable land.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) .In view of (c) & (d) above, does not arise.

Objective of Wasteland Development Scheme

1490. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the basic objective and funding pattern of Wasteland Development Scheme;

(b) its present implementation status throughout the country, indicating State-wise amount utilised during the last five years; and